

Household Notes

TO TEST GOOD FLOUR.

Squeeze some of the flour in your hand; if good it will retain the shape given by pressure. Knead a little between your fingers; if it works soft and sticky it is poor. Throw a little against a dry perpendicular surface; if it falls like powder it is bad.—Boston Post.

AN IDEA IN FASTENINGS.

In buttoning little girls' dresses, sew the buttons on the wrong side of the upper piece, so as to button wrong side out. In this way, the catching and breaking of the little one's hair is avoided and one cause of annoyance and ill-temper is removed.—Boston Post.

METHOD OF LETTING DOWN HEMS.

When hemming a child's dress, which is sure to shrink when washed, use No. 200 thread on bobbin and top of machine, and when washed, if too short, just cut 1 or 2 stitches and pull, and the thread breaks so easily it will not injure the best material.—Boston Post.

TO EXTRACT A SPLINTER.

"When a splinter has been driven deep into the hand," says the Woman's Home Companion, "it can be extracted without pain by steam. Nearly fill a wide mouthed bottle with hot water, place the injured part over the mouth of the bottle and press tightly. The suction will draw the flesh down, and in a minute or two the steam will extricate the splinter and the inflammation will disappear."

CARE OF SILK GLOVES.

To prevent the destruction of white and light colored silk gloves by washing, they should be hung with the tips up. To accomplish this, pin each finger to a cloth, then hang the cloth with the arms of the gloves down. This lets the water run into the portion of the gloves which received the least wear, dries the tips most quickly and prevents the destructive action of water on silk.—Boston Post.

USES FOR BORAX.

No one should be without borax in the home. For the hands and face use one teaspoonful to a basin of water. It is fine for cleaning teeth, and false teeth should be kept sweet and healthy by standing over night in a glass of water to which has been added a little borax. For the head one cannot find a better scalp cleanser. Use half a cupful for the bath. A teaspoonful to a pint of boiling starch adds to the gloss and lessens the sticking. For moths—before laying carpets sprinkle borax around the edges and crevices. To drive away vermin, water bugs, etc.—Sprinkle borax in all corners, cracks, and infested places. To preserve fish, flesh or fowl—sprinkle dry borax or use a solution of it.—Boston Post.

RECIPES.

Olive and Cheese Sandwiches.—Half-pound cheese, half-pint of stuffed olives, a pinch of salt and a pinch of cayenne pepper. Put cheese through grinder and cut olives fine with a silver knife. This is a tasty sandwich for a lunch.

Snow, Ice and Thaw Pudding.—One-half box of gelatine, one-half pint of boiling water poured over it; when cold add the whites of three eggs beaten stiff, two cups of sugar, juice of two lemons; beat the whole to a stiff froth; pour into moulds. Serve with a soft custard flavored with vanilla.

Judge Peter's Pudding.—Soak one-half box of gelatine in one-half pint cold water till the water is all ab-

sorbed, add one pint of boiling water, juice of one lemon, and one-half cup sugar; strain it through a cloth and pour over 2 oranges and 3 bananas sliced in a glass dish (2 or 3 figs cut in pieces and blanched almonds can be added. Put it on ice until it sets and serve with whipped cream.

Tarts.—One cup lard, 1 teaspoonful cream tartar, 1-2 teaspoonful soda, 1 teaspoonful sugar, 3 tablespoonfuls of water, white of 1 egg beaten to a froth, about 2 cups of flour; add more if necessary. Rub flour in lard, then mix all together.

Greenwich Ribbon Cake.—One cup sugar, 1-2 cup butter, 2 eggs, 1 cup milk, 2 cups flour, 1 teaspoonful cream of tartar, 1-2 teaspoonful soda. Take half and add 2 tablespoonfuls molasses, 1-2 teaspoonful cloves, 1 teaspoonful cinnamon, 1 tablespoonful allspice, 1-2 cup chopped raisins. Bake dark part 20 minutes, put white part on top and bake 20 minutes.

Taploca Cream.—Soak 2 tablespoonfuls tapioca two hours, boil 1 quart of milk, add the tapioca, stir in yolks of 3 eggs well beaten, with 1-2 cup of sugar. Let it just boil, remove from fire, flavor with vanilla, then stir in the whites of the eggs beaten stiff, sweetened and flavored. If this is set on the ice to cool it will be found much nicer.

WORTH QUOTING

It is conceded, declares the Providence Journal, that foreign highways are superior to those of this country. But there is no reason why American roads should not be built as well as those of England and France.

Insists the Omaha Bee: If the Post Office Department can succeed in arousing the farmers of America from their lethargy on the road question it will have served a purpose of much greater assistance to the social life of the people than even the establishment of rural free deliveries.

To the Rochester Herald for a fifteen dollar a week clerk to hand out a tip to one of those who, except to receive his money, would not otherwise condescend to touch his hand is one of the ludicrous features of the practice of aping the prosperous and the plunderer which has grown upon the country in a generation.

"Wireless telegraphy, whatever its failures and disappointments have been in the commercial world, insists the Washington Post, is daily demonstrating its great importance as a naval adjunct, its latest test was in covering a distance of two thousand miles in midocean, broken only by a few fleet tenders, between the cable station at Suva, in the Fiji Islands, and Admiral Sperry's flagship, the Connecticut.

Charles Wyndham, the actor, in private life Sir Charles Wyndham, dubbed knight on dramatic considerations, who served as a surgeon all through our Civil War and visited this country several times later on, has bounced into the controversy over the comparative merits of American and English oratory. He says in a flat-footed and not very courteous way: "It must be remembered that Americans are always talking. They imbibe fluency with their mothers' milk. I do not consider, however, that there is anything like the same proportion of really good public speakers in America as in England."

Fifty years ago it was not considered necessary to interpret the spectacle of the Comet as a portent, though if what was coming three years later could have been foreseen

it might have seemed unnatural to do so. When Halley's comet appeared about the middle of the fifteenth century, as the Turks had just obtained possession of Constantinople, the Christian world added this prayer to the Ave Maria relates the Boston Transcript: "Deliver us from the devil, the Turk and the comet," but in the nineteenth century comets were thought to be favorable to vegetation. The vineyards especially were very productive in 1811 and 1858, and the vintages of those years were sold at high figures as "comet wines."

If man is destined to achieve the mastery of the air, it will be a revolution indeed. Who knows inquires the Christian Register, whether the next generation may not see the day of transatlantic air lines, polar excursions, and pleasure tours over the world's great mountain ranges? Already we have the news of a German company organized to run a regular line of passenger airships between the continental capital cities from St. Petersburg to Paris, and Vienna to London. It would be a beautiful and desirable result if science were thus to add to the sum of human knowledge and enjoyment. But if the coming airship is to be chiefly a new agent of the destruction, a flying battleship, then let us hope that the day of its completion may be still far distant. Our old war-torn world would be better off without it. Science, which ought to be beneficent always, laboring for the good of man, would be maleficent indeed if it peopled the very air above us with winged destroyers.

Overcrowding in Scotland is not so bad as it used to be. The proportion living more than four per room fell from 18.67 per cent in 1861 to 9.56 in 1901.

NEWS IN LAVENDER.

"Splinters" of "Gleason's Pictorial" Which Still Have Point.

Somebody with an investigating nature recently got down from his father's garret a bound volume of Gleason's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion, published in Boston, 1854, and thumbing the yellow pages over he found on the editorial page of each weekly issue a refreshing compendium of short facts and editorial humor under the standing title of "Splinters." Here are some of them.

Little Cordelia Howard has made a most decided hit at the National Theatre in this city as Little Eva.

The engineers of the Erie Railroad have struck on account of a regulation whose mandate is that every engineer whose train runs off the track shall be dismissed.

Miss Julia Dean's engagement in this city has been highly successful, though to us she lacks refinement and study.

A Rochester paper states that the Rev. Miss Antoinette L. Brown is not married.

We have had a remarkably open fall and a beautiful Indian summer in the State of Massachusetts.

Kasosky, the celebrated bootmaker of Paris, works only for people who ride in carriages. His boots cannot be walked in.

The Governor of Arkansas says the State Treasury is short—a very prevalent complaint.

It is now almost as much an evidence of foppery to have a close shorn face as it used to be to wear a mustache.

As many as eight dead horses are carried out of Boston daily to feed Mr. Ward's hogs. Who eats the pork?

Ninety tons of poultry came to New York for Thanksgiving. Great place, New York.

Mr. Joseph Brelsford was accidentally killed at Coney Island, N. Y., lately; he broke his spine playing leapfrog.

The keener the critic the more cutting the criticism moralizes the Dallas News.

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